MG Annual Fall Potluck
The MG Annual Fall Potluck will be held Sunday, September 20. Social hour will begin at 4:00, dinner will be served at 5:00 at the Johnson County Fairgrounds. Please bring a dish to share and your own table service. Drinks will be provided. Spouses, partners, and friends are welcome. No children, please. We will have a ‘Share’ table and invite you to bring any produce, plants, books or magazines, and/or other horticulture-related items you are ready to pass on to someone else.

MG Steering Committee Meeting
Wednesday, September 9, 7:00 pm; Johnson County Extension Office. All are invited to attend!

Thymes Deadline
Thymes information should be sent to Jan Denehy at janice-denehy@uiowa.edu Please send news, volunteer opportunities, stories, pictures, etc., for the October issue by Monday, September 28.

Master Gardener Fall Training Course
The MG Fall Training Courses will take place Tuesdays and Thursdays starting September 17th through November 19th. Speakers are being finalized and the schedule will be emailed out soon. Current Master Gardeners are welcome to join for continuing educational hours and volunteers will be needed to bring treats for the classes. If interested please contact Shannon Bielicke, 319-337-3145, bielicke@iastate.edu.

International Master Gardener Conference
The International Master Gardener Conference, co-hosted by Iowa State University Extension and Outreach and the University of Nebraska–Lincoln Extension, will be Sept. 22–25 at the Mid-America Center in Council Bluffs. The 3-day event, called Horticultural Horizons in the Heartland, features nearly 100 educational and hands-on workshops, nine tours of nearby gardens and attractions, and a gardener’s trade show. The conference is open to the public. “We expect approximately 1,000 master gardeners and state or county coordinators from all over the U.S., Canada and South Korea to attend this bi-annual event,” said Denny Schrock, horticulturist with ISU Extension and Outreach. “If you want to learn about gardening, volunteer management and educational resources, this conference is for you!” For more information or to register, visit http://mastergardener.unl.edu/imgc2015

National Hosta Society Convention
The National American Hosta Convention was held in Raleigh, North Carolina on June 18 to 20. Founded in 1792, Raleigh is the home of ten colleges. A delightful way to see Raleigh is aboard an historic trolley or pedal cab. Attending the convention were over 400 people, including members from England and Russia. As a judge, much of one day is devoted to judging Hostas. It takes eight years to complete the requirements to become a Master Judge. At this convention over 550 Hosta cut leaves and sports were judged. The winning educational poster portrayed the plight of the Monarch Butterfly and plants needed for survival. Particularly interesting were talks on Hostas of Russia. Betty Kelly
Raptor Center Gardens

Planting Day at the Raptor Center Gardens
(L to R) Alice Linhart, Meg Kiekhafer, Polly Gould, Karole Fuller, Chris Parizek, Reed Rennekar, Michael Hesseltine, Jodeane Cancilla (Raptor Center Director), Anne Kent Miller. Beth Fisher also joined us after the picture was taken.

September Birthdays
- 1 Cindy Pickett
- 1 Tia Tyler
- 2 Andrea Parrott
- 4 Dorothy Fowles
- 5 Gwen Elling
- 7 Amy Blessing
- 7 Doug Parsons
- 8 Marilou Gay
- 8 Sue Kloos
- 8 Pam Kral
- 8 Toni Zenishek
- 9 Sherlyn Flesher
- 10 Marty Annis
- 10 Sally Dierks
- 11 Cheryl Ridgeway
- 13 Merrie-Anne Casko
- 15 Rose Ann Sippy
- 17 Tammie Richards
- 20 Tracy Hufford
- 20 Jeff Hughes
- 20 Jane Zukin
- 21 Esther Retish
- 22 Holly Hotchkiss
- 27 Cathy Utterback
- 28 Cindy Parsons

Master Gardener Featured
Sue Terveer-Mullins, one of our master Gardeners and member of PROJECT GREEN, has been featured in an article in the September/October issue IOWA GARDENER magazine. There are beautiful pictures of her yard and gardens.

Taste of Plum Grove
The 20th Taste of Plum Grove was a huge success due to excellent weather, great newspaper publicity and efforts of many Master Gardeners. We had a hundred more attending than ever before. This helps the Plum Grove gardens continue, and the attendance helps this historic site stay open in the face of state budget cuts. Thirty-eight Master Gardeners cooked 19 dishes recycled from past Taste parties. The Senior Center’s Post Office Brass returned to provide musical entertainment. Sunday Antrim’s glorious floral centerpieces dressed the tables and provided door prizes along with plant donations. A plaque was attached to the Memorial Bench in honor of Libby Stroud, an early garden volunteer. Thanks to Beth Fisher and Sue Kloos who compiled the Recipe Booklets. Additional appreciation goes to the Extension secretary, Shannon Bielicke, who copied many handouts for this event. Thanks to all that helped make this event a success as it takes many hands to pull this party off. Betty Kelly
Welcome to 20th Taste of Plum Grove

Large crowd waiting to be served

Old Post Office Brass provides music

MGs serving at the Taste of Plum Grove

Visitors eat on lawn of Plum Grove

Betty Kelly welcomes to 20th Taste Anniversary
Plum Grove Heirloom Garden

Grandma’s Flower Garden

Johnson County Fair

Master Gardener Demo Garden

Demo Garden

Johnson County Fair

Demo Garden

Buckets of Flowers
Upcoming Events

September 2015

**Backyard Abundance**  
[http://backyardabundance.org/](http://backyardabundance.org/)  
**Thursday, September 10, 2015**  
5:30-7:30 p.m. Green Drinks. Share Wine Lounge & Small Plate Bistro, 210 S. Dubuque St. Green Drinks is a place to meet and exchange ideas with other green-minded folks.

**Saturday, September 26, 2015**  
1:00 - 3:00 p.m. Edible Outdoors: Foraging. MacBride Nature Recreation Center. Learn foraging, harvesting, preparing and preserving skills in the great outdoors. Registration required. Cost $5 for members; $10 for nonmembers.  

**Blue Zones**  
[www.bluezones.com](http://www.bluezones.com)  
[https://iowa.bluezonesproject.com/activities](https://iowa.bluezonesproject.com/activities)

**Bur Oak Land Trust (formerly Johnson County Heritage)**  
[http://www.buroaklandtrust.org](http://www.buroaklandtrust.org)  
**Sunday, September 13, 2015**  
1:00-3:00 p.m. Family Day at Belgum Grove: Free event! Enjoy outdoor activities for kids of all ages, including skipping stones and kayaking! Come explore the scenic pond, creek, and restored prairie for an afternoon of fun! Belgum Grove, 3261 500th Street Southwest, Iowa City, IA.
**September 12, 2015**

1:00 - 3:00 p.m. Monarch Tagging at Kent Park Conservation Education Center. Each fall monarch butterflies travel nearly 2,000 miles south to Mexico. Come learn about this incredible journey. Short indoor presentation followed by outside tagging of butterflies. Free event and registration is not required. Call 319-645-1011 for more information.

**September Library Talks**

North Liberty Library, Thursdays 6:30 – 7:30

**September 3 Conifers for the Garden — Devon Dietz, LCMG** - It is said that evergreens are the “bones” of garden design. Devon will share his love of conifers in general, and dwarf conifers in particular. He will include information on the planting and care of conifers, conifer sources, and public places to view them.

**September 10 Putting your landscape to bed — Wil Carew LCMG** - It’s autumn. Time to clean up yard, landscape and gardens, but how do I start?” Join Wil as he covers what to do, when to do it, and why!

**September 17 Plants of the Bible—Judy Stevens, LCMG** —Be amazed at the number of plants mentioned in the Bible which we still cultivate today, including herbs, oils, and grains. No theology, just a fascinating view of Biblical gardens.

**September 24 Extending the Growing Season—Phil Pfister, LCMG** - Enjoy home-grown early tomatoes and pick fresh broccoli from the garden for the holidays! Phil will discuss clever ways the home gardener can extend Iowa’s growing season. Topics include utilizing cold frames, row covers, hoop houses, and other ingenious ideas to prolong your garden’s productivity.

**ECO Iowa City**

http://www.jcgov.org/?id=2256

Check website for events.

**Iowa State Extension**

http://www.extension.iastate.edu/calendar/

Nothing scheduled at press time.

**Iowa Water**

https://www.facebook.com/iowa.city.stormwater_volunteers?sk=wall

No scheduled activities posted at press time.

**Johnson County Conservation**

http://www.johnson-county.com/conservation

September, 1st and 3rd Wednesdays

8:00 a.m. Kent Park Bird Walks. Improve birding skills by joining Iowa City Bird Club at Kent Park Conservation Education Center. You’ll enjoy a leisurely stroll in search of feathered friends with experienced bird watchers.
Seed Savers
http://www.seedssavers.org/Education/
Check the website for events and activities.

Trees Forever
http://www.treesforever.org/Events
Saturday, September 12, 2015
8:30 a.m. Folks at Faulkes. Trees Forever at Faulkes Heritage Woods in Marion. Meet at trailhead located off Tama Street in Southeast Cedar Rapids to remove downed trees and limbs, invasive species and some of the excessive maple trees that are shading out native woodland flowers and other native tree species. Please contact Dustin Hinrichs at 319-373-0650 ext. 124.

100 Grannies
http://100grannies.org
http://100grannies.org/calendar/next-meeting/

Volunteer Opportunities

Attended Displays
Anyone interested in volunteering for Sunday Plum Grove Garden Guide, Project Green Garden Tour Guide, or the Johnson County Fair please contact Chuck and Jo Verts at 319-683-2791; jrv501@yahoo.com

MG Fair Grounds and Activities Committee
An additional one or two people are needed to complete the committee to coordinate tending the rain garden, tending the fairgrounds, and organizing the MG county fair activities, such as Bucket of Flowers and 4H awards. Contact Lavon Yeggy, 330-0952; lavon47@Lcom.net, if you are interested in this opportunity.

Oaknoll-MG Volunteer Matching Program
MG volunteers are matched with Oaknoll residents to assist with planting and maintaining their small garden spaces at Oaknoll. Please contact Marilou Gay at 466-3047 or rmlgay@aol.com or Vicki Siefers 331-1798 or vsiefers@mchsi.com if you have any questions or would like to volunteer.

Solon School Gardens
Solon School Gardens can use your help! We are in need of MG’s that would like to work on this Core project on their own time schedule, Work in these gardens is primarily pruning, weeding and moving plants. There are periodic group work events. Please contact Tracy Hufford at 624-3342 or tracehuff@aol.com

Speakers Bureau
Master Gardeners, are you interested in earning hours being a speaker? If so, please contact Sharon Jeter, or leave your name, number, and topics of interest and Sharon will contact you.

Also, if you give presentations for the Speakers Bureau please contact Sharon to inform her of your work. She records the information for her annual report. Contact Sharon at 631-2148

Volunteer Opportunities

Attended Displays:
Joann & Chuck Verts, 683-2791, JRV501@yahoo.com

Butterfly House at Fairgrounds
Barb Krug, 431-5865; kbfarm@yahoo.com; Carolyn Murphy 541-7079; carolyn-murphy@uiowa.edu

Coralville Historical School House: Cindy Parsons, 338-3975; cparsons@icialaw.com

Ecumenical Towers: Jane Zukin, 339-9127; Janezukin@aol.com

Demo Garden: Sherlyn Flesher, 541-4277; khyber71@aol.com; Jon or Kristel Saxton, (515) 460-2415, kristel.saxton@gmail.com

Downtown City Projects (Non-core)
Linda Schreiber, 319-936-8600, Inschreiber@gmail.com

Fair Grounds Beautification: An additional one or two people are needed to complete the committee to coordinate tending the rain garden, tending the fairgrounds, and organizing the MG county fair activities, such as Bucket of Flowers and 4H awards. Contact Lavon Yeggy, 330-0952, lavon47@Lcom.net; Mardi Rasmussen, 624-4090,
martharasmussen@yahoo.com; Joan Dinnel, 338-2434, jdinel@aol.com; Stella Clark, 351-6030, stella.clark1@aol.com

**Firefighters’ Memorial:** Barb Schintler, 651-5174, barbjschintler@hotmail.com

**Fundraising/Flea Market:** Barb Krug, 431-5865, kbifarm@yahoo.com

**Hortline:** Esther Retish, 351-5011, eretish@mchsi.com; Lyn Todd, 354-8563, lintctodd53@hotmail.com

**Hospice Garden at Willow Creek Park:** Melanie Haupert, 351-1149, melaniehaupert@gmail.com

**Intern Class/Training:** Nicole Pearson, (507) 251-0902, nicole-pearson@uiowa.edu

**Mark Twain People’s Garden (Non-core):** Julie Hegmann, 337-3607, Julie@hegmann.net

**Plum Grove:** Betty Kelly, 351-4903, blkiowa@gmail.com; Joanne Leach, 351-4722, lleach@jlgardens.net; Lavon Yeggy, 330-0952, lavon47@Lcom.net; Carolyn Murphy, 541-7079, candmmurphy@aol.com

**Raptor Center Gardens:** Alice Linhart, 621-8073, mikeandalice@southslope.net; Karole Fuller, 338-3561, jnkfuller@live.com

**Speakers Bureau:** Sharon Jeter, 631-2148, shrnjet@mchsi.com

**Social Events:** Steering Committee, Lavon Yeggy, 337-6327, lavon47@Lcom.net

**Solon High School:** Tracy Hufford, 624-3342, TraceHuff@aol.com

**Steering Committee Chair:** Lavon Yeggy, 330-0952, lavon47@Lcom.net

**Thymes:** Jan Denehy, 338-7493, janice-denehy@uiowa.edu

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